

House Republican Press Release

June 30, 2005  
Press Office: 860-240-8700

**Rep. Giuliano Secures Reimbursements for Old Saybrook School Projects**



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*Funding for Upcoming Middle School and High School Projects Approved As Well*

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State Representative Marilyn Giuliano, R-23<sup>rd</sup> District, has succeeded in securing reimbursement funding from the state for previously completed Old Saybrook school construction projects that otherwise would not have been eligible for assistance.

Working with state Department of Education officials, Representative Giuliano succeeded in getting a provision authorizing the funding included in this year's school construction bill (Senate Bill 2002), which received final legislative approval Tuesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>.

The funding covers about 29 percent of the cost to the town to convert a former home economics room at the Old Saybrook Middle School to a practice room for the school band. Representative Giuliano also helped gain approval for special legislation that provided reimbursement funding for the installation of two portable classrooms at the Kathleen E. Goodwin Elementary School, said Julie Pendleton, the school district's business manager.

"I'm glad I was able to help the town secure reimbursement from the state for these projects," Representative Giuliano said. "The funding is especially welcome at a time when fewer state grants for local projects are being approved. Any state funding we receive for school construction and renovation projects helps lower the burden on local property taxpayers."

"Marilyn was instrumental in gaining approval for the special legislation that allowed us to be reimbursed for the middle school and Goodwin Elementary School projects that were completed previously. We wouldn't have been successful without her help and hard work," Ms. Pendleton said.

The school construction bill also authorizes grants for two other projects. They are:

1 A \$1,185,600 grant to help pay for several projects at the Old Saybrook Middle School. The projects involve renovations to the science laboratory; the addition of two

classrooms; an addition to the library-media center and an addition to the cafeteria. The \$4,000,000 project is expected to get underway this fall and should be completed in the fall of 2006.

1 A \$3,645,720 grant to help finance projects at the Old Saybrook Senior High School. The projects include the addition of three new science laboratories; renovation of the existing laboratory; auditorium renovations and upgrades; the addition of two new music and art rooms; renovations to the former art room to enable it to be used for a special ed classroom and a language lab; construction of two new athletic fields and a practice field; and replacing the roof. The \$12,300,000 project is expected to get underway this fall and be completed in January 2007.

“I’d like to thank the taxpayers of Old Saybrook for supporting these projects. Their efforts will enable the middle school and the high school to expand and enhance their academic programs while the physical plant improvements will make both schools more conducive to learning,” Ms. Pendleton said. “First Selectman Michael Pace also deserves much of the credit for the long hours he put in helping us secure funding for these projects. Both Marilyn and Mike were incredible - they really were.”